

CH-1 of 02 DEC 1999

CNETINST 3710.1B

ETE4

12 OCT 1999

CNET INSTRUCTION 3710.1B

Subj: MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR SURVIVAL AND RESCUE EQUIPMENT
USED IN THE RESCUE SWIMMER SCHOOL TRAINING PROGRAM (RSSTP)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3710.7R
(b) OPNAVINST 4790.2G

Encl: (1) Survival/Rescue Training Equipment Maintenance Guide

1. Purpose. To establish inspection guidance and maintenance procedures for aviation flight, survival, and rescue equipment used in the RSSTP.

2. Cancellation. CNETINST 3710.1A

3. Scope. This instruction applies only to training activities conducting formal training courses in the RSSTP in accordance with reference (a). The procedures herein are not intended for operational fleet use of survival and rescue equipment.

4. Background. No standardized guidance has previously existed for the maintenance of equipment used specifically in the RSSTP. Aviator's flight gear and survival equipment in operational use are maintained in Ready for Issue (RFI) condition per reference (b). However, in RSSTP training, equipment is used for demonstration purposes or in controlled scenarios in which modifications to equipment and maintenance procedures have been safely made to facilitate training.

5. Discussion. Much of the equipment utilized in this training is obtained in used condition from the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO). It is then heavily utilized in the harsh environment of chlorinated training pools. Strict compliance with reference (b) standards for equipment used in the formal training environment is extremely costly both in terms of equipment costs and manpower required for upkeep. Enclosure (1) provides standards for maintaining this equipment in a Ready for Training (RFT) status, which represents safe and serviceable condition for training large numbers of students in RSSTP efficiently.

6. Definitions

a. Training equipment: Flight, survival, or rescue equipment acquired and maintained strictly for the purpose of formal training in the RSSTP.

b. RFT: Maintained in accordance with guidance set forth in enclosure (1).

7. Review. The RSSTP Model Manager is charged with the responsibility of reviewing recommendations for changes and periodic updating of this instruction.

8. Action. Commanding officers/officers in charge of RSSTP activities will ensure that training equipment is inspected and maintained in accordance with enclosure (1) and shall designate in writing a minimum of one staff member, E-5 or above, to monitor the maintenance of training equipment and survival/rescue gear.

R) 9. Forms. CNET 3710/1 may be obtained from CNET Supply (OS41).

/S/R.P. KRULL
Chief of Staff

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SURVIVAL/RESCUE TRAINING EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE GUIDESECTION I

GENERAL

- 110 RSSTP. All training equipment used in RSS must be maintained within the capabilities of individual sites, using the procedures contained in NAVAIR 13-1-6 series manuals, except that the maintenance may be performed by personnel assigned to the training sites vice intermediate maintenance activities.
- 120 Training Equipment. Equipment used in RSS is acquired either through the DRMO or by purchase through the supply system. Regardless of how equipment is acquired, if it is to be used strictly for training by RSS training sites, it is training equipment only, and not to be used by operational fleet activities.
- 130 Modifications to Equipment. Authorized modifications to training equipment are listed in the maintenance section. These modifications are not to be incorporated on fleet assets. Authorization for additional modifications to equipment listed herein may be requested from the RSSTP Model Manager using the format in Figure 1.
- 140 Maintenance Monitoring. Personnel assigned to monitor critical areas of equipment (i.e., weight bearing straps, buckles, and hardware) will ensure that these items are thoroughly inspected by personnel performing maintenance.
- 150 Equipment Marking. All inflatable training equipment must be marked "FOR TRAINING ONLY" with white paint to clearly indicate that this equipment is not to be used for actual survival or lifesaving purposes. Non-functional life preservers will be painted red down the back and the full width of the waist lobes to indicate they are not inflatable.
- 160 Display Equipment. All equipment used for training display purposes will be maintained in excellent visual condition in the configurations specified in the NAVAIR 13-1-6.7 series manuals.

(FORMAT)

FLIGHT EQUIPMENT MODIFICATION FOR TRAINING REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION

COMPLETE THIS FORM AND FORWARD TO:

COMMANDING OFFICER
CODE 13
NAVAVSCOLSCOM
181 CHAMBERS AVE STE C
PENSACOLA FL 32508-5221

1. Equipment:
2. Brief description of modification:
3. Brief description of how modified equipment will be used for training evolutions.
4. Purpose of modification (ease of donning, extended life of equipment, etc.):
5. Estimated cost of modification and/or savings (if any) over use of equipment as presently configured:
6. Attach photograph of modification in static position and in training environment or send a testable sample.

Submitted by: _____

RSS site: _____

Individual given credit for modification: _____

RSS MODEL MANAGER USE ONLY

Date: _____

Final status: Approved/Disapproved.

Date site notified: _____.

Figure 1

SECTION II

DOCUMENTATION

- 200 General. A tracking system must be used to ensure that every life preserver and raft used for operational training is leak tested every 30 days. A simple and easy system for maintaining training equipment is outlined below. More comprehensive documentation programs that cover at least the minimum requirements outlined below are authorized.
- 210 Procedures. The following documentation procedures will be used:
Using the form in Figure 2, list the serial number or local field number of each life preserver and raft down the left side of the form. The month will be listed at the top of the form. Each time equipment is inflated maintenance personnel will place their initials in the block for that serial number and under the date the inflation is performed. At the end of the month any serial number having no initials by it will be due for a 30-day inspection. This will facilitate tracking of all training equipment and the number of times each piece of flotation equipment has been in the water. Additionally, for sites with large student loads, this will provide a better means of determining how long equipment lasts and may be helpful in budgeting for future purchases. Completed inspection records shall be maintained a minimum of 3 months.

SECTION III

RSSTP EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>MAINTAIN/INSPECT</u>	<u>MODIFICATIONS</u>
LPU-28/P OR UDT Vest Bay or Pool	Visual inspection prior to each evolution. Verify CO ₂ live cylinders are installed.	No modifications authorized.
HBU-11/P or HBU-23	Visual inspection prior to each evolution. Rinse in fresh water after use.	For pool operations attached equipment (i.e., chemlites, knife, SDU-5E light, etc.) will be removed. For bay operations harness must contain four chemlites and modified chest and riser straps with additional velcro to permit specific sizing for each student. SDU-5E light may be installed for night swims. All other gear is optional.
Wet Suits, Mask, Snorkel, and Fins	Visual inspection prior to each training evolution. Rinse in fresh water after use.	(R) (D) (A) No modifications authorized.
Surface Harness	Visual inspection prior to each training evolution. Rinse in fresh water after use.	For pool operations attached equipment (i.e., chemlites, knife, SU-5E light, etc.) will be removed. For bay operations four chemlites and a SDU-5E light must be installed.
Stokes Rescue Litter with REU-2/H Flotation Assembly	Inspect prior to each use or every 30 days. Inspect litter for general condition, cracks, dents, corrosion, and security of all metal. Inspect suspension bed webbing, straps, stitching, and other webbing from head to toe for cuts, tears, strains, fraying, and security of attachments. Inspect carabinier's gate pin hinge and lifting points for deformity, cracks, or corrosion. Inspect flotation assembly for general condition, cuts, tears, and fraying of all leg/chest fasteners.	No modifications authorized.

Inspect stowage bag mesh material of lift inset, stitches, retainer, and patient straps. Inspect for presence of oil, fuel, grease, or chemical contamination. Inspect lift cables for fray, corrosion, and signs of wear.

Rinse in fresh water after each use.

Helmets HGU and SPH

Visual inspection prior to each training day: maintain edge roll. Ensure pads and liners are intact, visor assembly is operational, ear cups are in place, and bayonet receivers are functional.

Remove communication cables, ear phones, boom mike, and swivel. To improve the ability of the wearer to hear: Drill a 1/4" hole through the helmet shell and ear cup at the bottom of the ear cup.

Rinse with fresh water after each use.

Cranial

Visual inspection prior to each training day. Inspect cloth for frays, tears, and worn velcro. Check attenuators for cracks and ear pads.

No modifications authorized.

Rinse in fresh water after each use.

Oxygen Mask

Visual inspection prior to each training day. Inspect for cracks and torn face piece, attachment and operation of bayonet fittings.

Remove inhalation and exhalation valve, microphone and amplifier.

Rinse in fresh water after each use.

Flight Suit

Visual inspection prior to each training day. Inspect for fraying, rips, tears, and operation of slide fasteners at least weekly.

Slide fasteners may be replaced with velcro.

Rinse in fresh water after each use.

Flight Gloves

Visual inspection prior to each training day. Inspect for matching pairs, holes, separated seams, and hardness.

No modifications authorized.

Rinse with fresh water after each use.

Flight Boots	<p>Visual inspection prior to each training day. Inspect for matching pairs, nails protruding from heels, and separated soles.</p> <p>Rinse with fresh water after each use.</p>	<p>No modifications authorized.</p>	
Torso Harness	<p>Visual inspection prior to each training day. Inspect for fraying, rips, tears, and operation of slide fasteners. Use solid film lubricant on slide fasteners at least weekly.</p> <p>Rinse with fresh water after each use.</p>	<p>Slide fasteners may be replaced by velcro. Chest strap may be extended using a friction adapter on a piece of like webbing.</p>	
SV-2B Vest	<p>Visual inspection prior to each training day. Inspect for deterioration, rips, tears, and fraying. Use solid lubricant on all slide fasteners at least weekly.</p> <p>Rinse with fresh water after each use.</p>	<p>Slide fasteners may be replaced by velcro. Helo pickup strap must be in place. Remove survival equipment for pool training.</p>	
LPU	<p>Visual inspection prior to each training day. Inspect for rips, cuts, seam separation, and tears.</p> <p>Rinse with fresh water after each use.</p> <p>Leakage test every 30 days (inflation during a training evolution is considered a leak test). If lobes fail to stay inflated during training, the LPU will be removed for repair or discard. A preserver not used during a 30-day period will be opened and inflated for a 2-hour period. A preserver not maintaining firm pressure shall be repaired or discarded.</p>	<p>Installation of expended or "dummy" CO₂ cylinders for pool training is authorized.</p>	(A)
LPP-1, LPU-21, MK-1, LPU-32 Life Preservers	<p>Visual inspection prior to each day. Inspect for rips, cuts, seam separation, and tears.</p> <p>Rinse with fresh water after each use.</p>	<p>Installation of expended or "dummy" CO₂ cylinders for pool training is authorized.</p>	(A)

Leakage test every 30 days (inflation during a training evolution is considered a leak test). If vest fails to stay inflated during training, the vest shall be removed for repair or discard. A preserver not used during a 30-day period will be opened and inflated for a 2-hour period. A preserver not maintaining firm pressure shall be repaired or discarded.

Life Rafts

A visual inspection for holes or seam separation shall be done prior to each training day.

Removal of equipment from container and supply pocket.

Rinse with fresh water after each use.

Leak test every 30 days (inflation during a training evolution is considered a leak test). If the raft fails to stay inflated during a training evolution, it shall be removed for repair or discard. Rafts not used during a 30-day period shall be inflated for a 2-hour period. A raft not maintaining firm pressure shall be repaired or discarded.

A) Rescue Net

Inspect all hardware for security of attachment, damage, wear, and ease of operation prior to each training day.

No modifications authorized.

The rescue net shall be washed after every emersion in salt water or brackish water. Rinse with fresh water.

A) Rescue Strop

Visual inspection of condition of rescue strop. Inspect for cuts, deterioration, and abrasion. Inspect seams for adhesion and stitching of attachment and wear. Inspect all hardware for security of attachment, damage, wear, and ease of operation prior to each training day.

No modifications authorized.

Rinse with fresh water after use.

Proof load test every 30 days in accordance with NAVAIR 13 series.

SAR MEDIVAC Litter	<p>Inspect frame assembly for cracks, bends, and security of attachment. Inspect nylon frame cover, foot restraint, head restraint, lumbar pad, bottom flotation, and chest flotation pad assembly for tears, broken or separated stitches, and security. Inspect patient restraint straps for cuts, stains, or fraying. Inspect webbing for cuts, broken or separated stitching, and security. Inspect litter prior to each training day.</p> <p>Rinse in fresh water after salt water immersion.</p>	No modifications authorized.	(A)
Parachute Canopies	<p>Inspect for tears, missing hardware, proper attachment to casing assembly. At least once per week dis-entangle shroud lines. Inspect canopies prior to each training day.</p> <p>Rinse with fresh water after use.</p>	Shroud lines may be cut as necessary to facilitate training.	(A)
Parachute Backpack Style Casing Assembly	<p>Inspect for tears/rips, missing hardware, and proper attachment to canopy. Inspect prior to each training day.</p> <p>Rinse with fresh water after use.</p>	Remove rubber bands, small detachable parts, and ripcord assembly.	(A)
Seatpans	<p>Depending on the style, inspect for cracks in fiber-glass case or rips/tears in material. Inspect hardware for damage, wear, ease of operation, burrs, missing hardware and fittings prior to each training day.</p> <p>Rinse with fresh water after use.</p>	Remove all nonessential training items (i.e., survival kit equipment). Reattach O ₂ hose assembly. Remove communication leads. Remove O ₂ assembly.	(A)
Crewmembers Safety Belt	<p>Examine webbing for fading of fabric, wear, fraying, rot, broken stitches, or cuts. Ensure webbing belt endstops are four webbing layers thick. Examine all hardware for security of attachment, cracks, wear, and ease of operation prior to each training day.</p> <p>Rinse with fresh water after use.</p>	No modifications authorized.	(A)

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| A) Level "A"
Medical Bag
and Supplies | Examine bag for rips, tears,
wear, and fraying. Ensure
all supply items listed on
NWP 3-50.1 inventory list
are intact and operational. | Supply items are for training
only and do not need to be
sterile. |
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